

# SAFESTAT REPORT

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*Front Office*

DPS/Highway Patrol Division  
Deputy Chief Brian Sanchez

## Overview

In calendar year 2009, the Northern Command Officers proudly served our Northern Nevada communities with an emphasis on ethical law enforcement. During the calendar year, we experienced a 10.6% reduction in overall traffic crashes. More specifically, the number of all categories of crashes reduced from the year before. An overview of the 2009 crashes showed 2469 were property damage, 1070 were injury, and 38 were fatal. As compared to last year, our regional commercial vehicle remained virtually the same with a single accident increase to 240 total crashes. In our overall 2009 totals, intoxicated drivers were responsible for 213 of our total crashes in the Northern Command.

The officers in our command arrested 1,406 intoxicated drivers this year. The average blood alcohol level of these intoxicated drivers was, .15%, almost double the legal limit of .08% blood alcohol content. The average age of the intoxicated drivers was 34 years old. Our officers arrested another 1,153 people on various charges over the year. In other areas of enforcement, our officers wrote 30,304 speeding citations, 8349 hazardous moving citations and 3881 seat belt citations. Overall, the enforcement of traffic violations in the Northern Command decreased in 2009, which we attribute to the decrease in traffic counts. In the Northern Command, we want to focus on violations that relate to, or enhance the severity of, traffic accidents.

The Northern Command would like to recognize Trooper Mike Edgell for being named the Northern Command's Officer of the Year. We would also like to recognize Sergeant Tom Ames for being named the Northern Command's Sergeant of the Year. We also want to mention, Ms. Danielle Rolfe from our Northern Command's Administrative Office who was named the Northern Command Employee of the year. These three employees are the epitome of service to the public and professionalism in all situations. We are truly proud of their work and time they invest into our department and communities.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the employees in our Northern Command and all the allied agencies for a successful and safe 2009.

**NORTHERN COMMAND CRASH STATISTICS OVERVIEW**

0	2009	2008	% Change		
Total Crashes	3577	4003	-10.6%		
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	2469	2806	-12.0%		
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	1070	1153	-7.2%		
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	38	44	-13.6%		
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	213	224	-4.9%		
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	43	48	-10.4%		
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	10	14	-28.6%		
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	5	2	150.0%		
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	13	17	-23.5%		
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	8	4	100.0%		
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	9	12	-25.0%		
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	240	239	0.4%		
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	195	166	17.5%		
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	41	65	-36.9%		
Fatal Crashes Involving Commercial Vehicles	4	8	-50.0%		

**Crash Analysis**

- Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 1.1%
- Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 6.0%
- Percentage of persons killed without seatbelts to total person killed 44.1%
- Percentage of Commercial Vehicle crashes to total crashes 6.7 %

## NORTHERN COMMAND FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	2009		2008	% Change		
DUI arrests from crashes ##	213		224	-4.9%		
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ##	1193		1436	-16.9%		
Other Arrests	5349		6744	-20.7%		
Total persons arrested (DUI included) ##	2559		2954	-13.4%		
Speed violations	30304		30786	-1.6%		
Hazardous moving violations	8349		10181	-18.0%		
Occupant restraint violations ##	3881		5181	-25.1%		
Total violations [above violations included]	75350		83348	-9.6%		
<b>Commercial Enforcement</b>						
Hazardous moving violations-citations/arrests	599		364	64.6%		
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	560		307	82.4%		
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	8164		8165	0.0%		
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only	38		2	1800.0%		
Total safety violations -- citation	4011		3639	10.2%		
Total safety violations -- repair order	25402		22930	10.8%		
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	1154		983	17.4%		
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	993		1013	-2.0%		
Total school buses inspected	1063		1241	-14.3%		
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	386		376	2.7%		
Total trucks weighed	8836		5966	48.1%		
Total overweight citations	893		1237	-27.8%		
Total dyed fuel inspections	3131		4422	-29.2%		
Total dyed fuel citations	17		13	30.8%		

**ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS**

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</b>	2009	2008	% Change		
<b>COMMUNICATION CENTER</b>					
Radio Transmissions from Console	3030850	4080807	-25.7%		
CAD Incidents	223878	204674	9.4%		
Telephone Calls	202590	234248	-13.5%		
CAD Logs	2044269	1740665	17.4%		
<b>FRONT OFFICE</b>					
Accident Reports Processed	3610	4347	-16.9%		
Arrest Reports Processed	3079	3003	2.5%		
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	327	288	13.5%		
Office Accident Reports Taken	184	149	23.5%		
Citations Processed	43712	52621	-16.9%		
Vehicle Impound Releases	11	13	-15.4%		
Visitors at Counter	2003	1022	96.0%		
Crash Reports Mailed Out	\$15,457.85	\$6,737.70	129.4%		
<b>COURT / WARRANT</b>					
Warrants Received	7453	9586	-22.3%		
Warrants Entered	6850	5331	28.5%		
Warrants Cleared	5904	5825	1.4%		
Warrants Validated	21775	18698	16.5%		
Extradition / Transports	387	207	87.0%		

**IMPAIRED DRIVER ANALYSIS**

- Average BAC 0.15%
- Average age of DUI arrestees, 34years old

**CONTRACT SERVICES**

- 37 Contracts using 1,941.30 hours, billed in the amount of \$123,335.38

**FLIGHT OPERATIONS**

The Northern Command aircraft made 210 flights during the past calendar year for a total of 582.3 flight hours. This is a decrease of 2.9% from 2008. Following is a breakdown of activities.

Total Missions	Flight Hours	% of Flight Time	Description
75	293.8	51	Speed Enforcement
71	143.0	25	Prisoner Transport
38	80.3	14	Personnel Transport
8	22.4	4	Maintenance
6	14.9	3	Pilot Training
8	13.7	2	Other
4	7.7	1	NDOT

Flights in the “other” category include searches, pursuits, air shows and travel for court. 75 speed enforcement missions were conducted during the year for a total enforcement of 3014. Following is a breakdown of activities.

Type of Violation	Enforcement Actions
Speed	2568
Hazardous	89
Non-Hazardous	323
Seat belt	34

During the course of these enforcement missions, 67 motorists were assisted and 7 arrests were made. Two of these arrests were for DUI and two of them were felonies. Five vehicles were impounded. The high speed for the year was clocked on IR 80 near Mustang in November. A black Chevrolet Camaro was clocked at 101 mph.

Notable events over the past year:

In January 2009, the airplane was delivered to Chaparral Avionics in Minden for installation of the Lo-Jack stolen vehicle recovery system. The installation was paid for by Lo-Jack.

On May 1, the Chief and Kevin Kelly (Kara Kelly-Borgonone’s father) were flown to Las Vegas to attend the dedication of the Law Enforcement Officer Memorial dedication at the Southern Command NHP office. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Air 2 and Air 3 performed a close formation flyover.

In June, the airplane’s navigation system was upgraded with an evolution EFD1000 electronic flight display. This unit replaces the vacuum driven Horizontal Situation Indicator (HSI), which needed to be replaced every two years. The airplane seatbelts were also



upgraded and some maintenance issues addressed prior to the end of the fiscal year. NDOT paid half of the \$18,879.64 cost.

Since the aircraft was donated to the State in November 2005, we have jointly operated it with NDOT. While titled to NDOT, the aircraft is managed by NHP. An inter-local agreement specifies that operating costs are to be apportioned according to use and major maintenance is to be split equally.

NDOT's use of the plane has steadily decreased. As of June 30, only 2% of the flight time was attributed to NDOT. As of July 1, 2009, title to the airplane passed to NHP and the inter-local agreement was cancelled at NDOT's request.

On August 6, while taxiing for takeoff in Reno with an escort officer and two prisoners, the airplane's right main wheel outer flange broke off, resulting in a blowout of the tire. The airplane was towed by dolly to a hangar at Jet West Aviation where El Aero Services of Carson City made repairs in the amount of \$3312.11.

The radio reband on the airplane's 800 MHz radio was accomplished by the radio technicians on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

On August 27, the Chief and the Deputy Director were flown to Boise, ID. to attend the Northwestern University Police Staff and Command School graduation on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

The airplane was on static display at the South Lake Tahoe Lake in the Sky air show on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, the pilot completed a biennial flight review as required by the FAA.

While working speed enforcement at Boomtown on September 10<sup>th</sup>, Reno Approach Control requested we search Dog Valley as they had received a report of a large plane down. No plane was located – it was no doubt a low flyover in preparation for the Reno Air Races at Stead.

The airplane was on static display at the Reno Air Races at Stead airport from the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Also on display was Trooper Jeff Leathley's 1953 Ford NHP Patrol car.

The runway at the Carson City airport was closed for construction from November 3 to November 23. During this time, Air 3 was hangared at Chaparral Avionics' Minden hangar.

The pilot instructed the course *Law Enforcement Officer Flying Armed* at the DPS academy on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, the Deputy Director, the Chief and the Reno Captain were transported to Las Vegas to attend LVMPD Officer Trevor Nettleton's funeral.

Air 3 was requested to assist RAVEN helicopter and Washoe Co. deputies in a fugitive search in the Verdi area on December 3. The suspect fled on foot when he crashed the stolen car he was driving. He was not located.

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